

EXHIBIT K

January 21, 2025

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 1</p> <p>UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK</p> <p>-----X</p> <p>GRACIE BAKED, LLC, WECARE RG, INC., and MILLERCOBB, LLC, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PLAINTIFFS,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-against- Case No.: 22-CV-4019 (RKP)(VMS)</p> <p>GIFTROCKET, INC., TREMENDOUS, INC., NICHOLAS BAUM, KAPIL KALE, JONATHAN PINE, BENJAMIN KUBIC, SUNRISE BANKS N.A., GIFTROCKET, LLC, TREMENDOUS, LLC, and TREMENDOUS PARENT, INC., DEFENDANTS.</p> <p>-----X</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DATE: January 21, 2025 TIME: 9:53 A.M.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DEPOSITION of the Defendant, GIFTROCKET, LLC, by a Witness, NICHOLAS BERNARD BAUM, taken by the Plaintiff, pursuant to a Notice and to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, held at the offices of Lexitas, 420 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10017, before Sandra Sierra, a Notary Public of the State of New</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p> <p>1 2 A P P E A R A N C E S: 3 4 JANOVE PLLC Attorneys for the Plaintiff 5 GRACIE BAKED, LLC 6 500 Seventh Avenue New York, New York 10018 BY: LIANA VITALE, ESQ. 7 8 9 DTO LAW Attorneys for the Defendants 10 GIFTROCKET, INC., TREMENDOUS, INC., NICHOLAS BAUM, KAPIL KALE, 11 JONATHAN PINE, BENJAMIN KUBIC 915 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1950 Los Angeles, California 90017 12 BY: MEGAN O'NEILL, ESQ. -and- 13 BY: KEVIN WESTERMAN, ESQ. 14 15 GREENE ESPEL Attorneys for the Defendant 16 SUNRISE BANKS 222 South 9th Street, Suite 2200 17 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402 BY: GINA TONN, ESQ. 18 19 Also present: Sam Sharfstein - Janove PLLC 20 21 * * * 22 23 24 25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 2</p> <p>1 2 York. 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 4</p> <p>1 2 3 4 F E D E R A L S T I P U L A T I O N S 5 6 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED 7 By and between (among) counsel for the 8 respective parties herein, that filing and 9 sealing be and the same are hereby waived. 10 11 IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED 12 that all objections, except as to the form 13 of the question, shall be reserved to the 14 time of the trial. 15 16 IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED 17 that the within deposition may be sworn to 18 and signed before any officer authorized to 19 administer an oath, with the same force and 20 effect as if signed and sworn to before the 21 Court. 22 23 24 25</p>

1 (Pages 1 to 4)

January 21, 2025

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 37</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. What enhanced disclosures?</p> <p>4 A. If you let me look at my</p> <p>5 binder.</p> <p>6 Q. Yes. Just let us know what</p> <p>7 you're looking at.</p> <p>8 A. I am going to take a look at</p> <p>9 the "Send a Gift" page. I can see that</p> <p>10 document numbers 1 through 9 are</p> <p>11 screenshots from historical archive of our</p> <p>12 "Send a Gift" page. And we can see the</p> <p>13 changes that took place and any disclosures</p> <p>14 that might have been added to that page.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay. Why don't we walk</p> <p>16 through and start with the first one.</p> <p>17 A. So first one is 2015 --</p> <p>18 Q. First the one -- sorry.</p> <p>19 MS. VITALE: The first one is</p> <p>20 GR0050477. This is Tab 1 in the</p> <p>21 binder of documents that Mr. Baum</p> <p>22 brought with him to the deposition</p> <p>23 today.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay. What is this?</p> <p>25 A. This is the page that a sender</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 39</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 prefilled. So there would be information</p> <p>3 about the business including the name, the</p> <p>4 address, the rating, the review count; I</p> <p>5 think that is it.</p> <p>6 Q. And where it says, "GiftRocket</p> <p>7 Gift Card," would it instead say, for</p> <p>8 example, "Gracie Baked" or whatever the</p> <p>9 business name was?</p> <p>10 A. It would include the business</p> <p>11 name, that's right.</p> <p>12 Q. And that would be the same for</p> <p>13 any landing page for any specific business,</p> <p>14 it would follow the same format; is that</p> <p>15 correct?</p> <p>16 A. That's correct.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay. Do you want to turn to</p> <p>18 the next one, which is Tab 2 GR0050480.</p> <p>19 What is this?</p> <p>20 A. This is the same page, but how</p> <p>21 it looked on April 26th, 2016. And I don't</p> <p>22 believe any enhanced disclosures had been</p> <p>23 added yet. So let's turn to the next one.</p> <p>24 Q. All right, that is Tab 3</p> <p>25 GR0050483?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 38</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 would use to send a GiftRocket gift card.</p> <p>3 And it is a form that collects information</p> <p>4 about the recipient and the gift such as</p> <p>5 the recipient's name, the amount, the</p> <p>6 greeting card design, the message, a</p> <p>7 suggestible business and the delivery</p> <p>8 method to the recipient. And so I think</p> <p>9 the best way to do this is to compare the</p> <p>10 different documents. And --</p> <p>11 Q. So what is the date of the one</p> <p>12 we looking at?</p> <p>13 A. First one is September 12th,</p> <p>14 2015.</p> <p>15 Q. Is this how the GiftRocket web</p> <p>16 page would appear if you went to the "Send</p> <p>17 a Gift Card" generic page on the website at</p> <p>18 that point in time?</p> <p>19 A. That's right.</p> <p>20 Q. What if you went to the landing</p> <p>21 page for a specific business?</p> <p>22 A. It would be nearly identical.</p> <p>23 Q. What would be different?</p> <p>24 A. What would be different is that</p> <p>25 the business information would be</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 40</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 A. And now we are looking at the</p> <p>3 page on October 4th, 2017.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay.</p> <p>5 A. And you can see that there are</p> <p>6 -- there is a specific disclosure, the</p> <p>7 GiftRocket card disclosure you can see in</p> <p>8 the middle of the page towards the right.</p> <p>9 And it reads, "The GiftRocket Gift Card is</p> <p>10 redeemed for money through the GiftRocket</p> <p>11 website. It is not accepted by any</p> <p>12 third-party merchant and is not covered by</p> <p>13 the CARD Act. Value expires three years</p> <p>14 after purchase and, if not redeemed, a \$10</p> <p>15 monthly fee applies starting on the 13th</p> <p>16 month after purchase. The fees are</p> <p>17 refunded if the gift card is redeemed prior</p> <p>18 to expiration. The recipient will receive</p> <p>19 the full initial value. Please see the</p> <p>20 terms and conditions for the terms and full</p> <p>21 list of fees associated with GiftRocket</p> <p>22 Gift Card."</p> <p>23 In addition to this gift card</p> <p>24 disclosure there is enhanced language about</p> <p>25 how the product works at the top of the</p>

10 (Pages 37 to 40)

January 21, 2025

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 41</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 page. This is first thing that a visitor</p> <p>3 would see upon landing on this page which</p> <p>4 says, "Personalize your cash gift card with</p> <p>5 a beautiful design and message. Your</p> <p>6 recipient receives a printable or email</p> <p>7 certificate. See how it works for more</p> <p>8 information." And the "how it works" would</p> <p>9 include more detailed information about how</p> <p>10 the recipient receives the funds.</p> <p>11 Q. What is the basis for your</p> <p>12 statement that that's the first thing the</p> <p>13 user would see when they went on the</p> <p>14 website?</p> <p>15 A. My point is that it is towards</p> <p>16 the top and in my opinion the most</p> <p>17 prominently displayed text beneath the</p> <p>18 title. So is it the first thing they would</p> <p>19 see, that is dependant on the individual,</p> <p>20 but it is prominently displayed on the</p> <p>21 page.</p> <p>22 Q. It's displayed in the smallest</p> <p>23 font size on the entire page, correct?</p> <p>24 MS. O'NEILL: Objection to</p> <p>25 form.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 43</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 disclosures the process was collaborative</p> <p>3 with Sunrise.</p> <p>4 Q. When you say the GiftRocket</p> <p>5 team, who are talking about?</p> <p>6 A. It would depend on the time,</p> <p>7 but typically I was the individual who</p> <p>8 worked most closely with Sunrise on these</p> <p>9 types of efforts.</p> <p>10 Q. When you say "Sunrise," who at</p> <p>11 Sunrise are you talking about?</p> <p>12 MS. O'NEILL: Objection to</p> <p>13 form.</p> <p>14 A. It depends on the time period.</p> <p>15 We would have an account manager that most</p> <p>16 requests in communication were routed</p> <p>17 through and, specially for something like</p> <p>18 disclosures, they might be working with a</p> <p>19 compliance team, and so it's actually a</p> <p>20 little bit of a tricky question when you</p> <p>21 say for something like this who we are</p> <p>22 working with. Because you have an account</p> <p>23 manager that might be relaying information</p> <p>24 from someone on the compliance team and we</p> <p>25 don't necessarily know who that individual</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 42</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 A. It's displayed in font size</p> <p>3 consistent with other font sizes --</p> <p>4 numerous other font sizes across the page.</p> <p>5 I don't know the specific sizes. But to me</p> <p>6 it does not look substantially differently</p> <p>7 sized than other font sizes on the page</p> <p>8 other than the header.</p> <p>9 Q. Do you see that the header is</p> <p>10 larger and in bold and it says, "Send a</p> <p>11 gift card online"?</p> <p>12 A. Yes. Typically headers are</p> <p>13 large and often bolder.</p> <p>14 Q. Who decided to add this</p> <p>15 language to the GiftRocket website?</p> <p>16 MS. O'NEILL: Objection to</p> <p>17 form.</p> <p>18 A. Typically, how it worked is the</p> <p>19 GiftRocket team would create language to</p> <p>20 accomplish a goal in collaboration with our</p> <p>21 partner bank, Sunrise, and Sunrise would</p> <p>22 review the content and sometimes ask for</p> <p>23 changes. This specific language, I am not</p> <p>24 sure if it was first proposed by Sunrise or</p> <p>25 by GiftRocket team, but generally for</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 44</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 is. Sometimes we would communicate</p> <p>3 directly with compliance folks or other</p> <p>4 people at Sunrise. But the typical</p> <p>5 communication would go through an account</p> <p>6 manager.</p> <p>7 Q. All right. So going back to</p> <p>8 the page that we're looking at in 50484.</p> <p>9 The language on the right side of the page,</p> <p>10 "Gift card disclosure," do you know who</p> <p>11 drafted that language?</p> <p>12 A. It was collaborative between</p> <p>13 GiftRocket and Sunrise. I don't know</p> <p>14 specific individuals. I am sure that I was</p> <p>15 involved to some extent.</p> <p>16 Q. Do you know who decided where</p> <p>17 that language would appear on the</p> <p>18 GiftRocket website?</p> <p>19 A. I don't recall who initially</p> <p>20 proposed this location.</p> <p>21 Q. Do you know who determined the</p> <p>22 font size and color that would be used?</p> <p>23 MS. O'NEILL: Objection to</p> <p>24 form.</p> <p>25 A. Generally GiftRocket would</p>

11 (Pages 41 to 44)

January 21, 2025

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 49</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 the first sentence at the top of the page,</p> <p>3 is a description at a high level of product</p> <p>4 and how it functions. Specifically its</p> <p>5 cash gift card with the design and message</p> <p>6 and can be printed or emailed, and there is</p> <p>7 a link to how it works.</p> <p>8 To answer your question, yes, a</p> <p>9 customer can check out without going to</p> <p>10 "How It Works." Certainly there are other</p> <p>11 ways for the customer to be educated about</p> <p>12 the product and understand what they are</p> <p>13 purchasing outside of explicitly going to</p> <p>14 the "How It Works" page.</p> <p>15 Q. How would this page be</p> <p>16 different if it was a landing page for a</p> <p>17 specific business?</p> <p>18 MS. O'NEILL: Objection to</p> <p>19 form.</p> <p>20 A. The primary difference is that</p> <p>21 the business information would be</p> <p>22 prefilled; that includes the business name,</p> <p>23 the address, the ratings, the review count.</p> <p>24 Otherwise, the disclosure was still there,</p> <p>25 though, and the template was the same.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 51</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 previous date that we have in this binder,</p> <p>3 which is April 26th. And changes were made</p> <p>4 as a result of collaboration with our</p> <p>5 partner Sunrise Banks.</p> <p>6 Q. Were there changes made to</p> <p>7 address concerns raised by Sunrise Banks?</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. Do you have a way of finding</p> <p>10 out the exact date that these changes were</p> <p>11 made?</p> <p>12 A. Let me look at my binder here.</p> <p>13 Yes, and if you look at Tab 10.</p> <p>14 Q. This one is labeled GR0050642</p> <p>15 and 643.</p> <p>16 A. Here we have the specific dates</p> <p>17 that disclosures were added. So this is</p> <p>18 actually a very nice summary and we don't</p> <p>19 have to necessarily tab through every</p> <p>20 single website iteration to give you a</p> <p>21 timeline of what disclosure were added and</p> <p>22 when.</p> <p>23 The gift card disclosure that</p> <p>24 we saw in the last "Send A Gift Card" page</p> <p>25 we were reviewing, the October 2017 one,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 50</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 Q. What about the bold header that</p> <p>3 says, "Send a gift card online," what would</p> <p>4 that say if this were a landing page for a</p> <p>5 specific business?</p> <p>6 A. During what time period?</p> <p>7 Q. During the period of time that</p> <p>8 we are looking at here for October 4th,</p> <p>9 2017.</p> <p>10 A. I don't know.</p> <p>11 MS. O'NEILL: We have been</p> <p>12 going over an hour so.</p> <p>13 MS. VITALE: Do you want to</p> <p>14 take a break?</p> <p>15 MS. O'NEILL: Yeah, that is</p> <p>16 good time to take a break.</p> <p>17 MS. VITALE: That is fine.</p> <p>18 Q. Let me ask one more since we</p> <p>19 are on this page. Why were these changes</p> <p>20 made to the website at this point in time?</p> <p>21 MS. O'NEILL: Objection to</p> <p>22 form.</p> <p>23 A. To be clear, it was not</p> <p>24 necessarily made on October 4th. It was</p> <p>25 made before October 4th but after the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 52</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 the disclosure was actually added May 3rd,</p> <p>3 2016.</p> <p>4 MS. VITALE: Okay. Do you want</p> <p>5 to take a break now?</p> <p>6 MS. O'NEILL: Yes.</p> <p>7 (Whereupon, a brief break was</p> <p>8 taken.)</p> <p>9 MS. VITALE: Mark this</p> <p>10 Plaintiff's Exhibit 5.</p> <p>11 (Whereupon, GR0036621 was</p> <p>12 marked as Plaintiff's Exhibit 5 for</p> <p>13 identification as of this date by the</p> <p>14 Reporter.)</p> <p>15 Q. This is Exhibit 5. It's</p> <p>16 GR0036621; do you recognize that document?</p> <p>17 A. I recognize the website pages,</p> <p>18 generally.</p> <p>19 Q. What website page is this?</p> <p>20 A. It's multiple.</p> <p>21 Q. What is the first one?</p> <p>22 A. The first one is a business</p> <p>23 listings page on GiftRocket. And on this</p> <p>24 page it includes a list of different pages,</p> <p>25 restaurants in Chicago, paginated results.</p>

13 (Pages 49 to 52)

January 21, 2025

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 53</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 Q. How would a page like this be</p> <p>3 generated on a GiftRocket website?</p> <p>4 A. GiftRocket code base includes a</p> <p>5 template for how to construct this page and</p> <p>6 that template would include static content,</p> <p>7 like the title, I guess there is some</p> <p>8 dynamic text in the title, but there is a</p> <p>9 disclosure, "The GiftRocket Gift Card is</p> <p>10 redeemable online for money. You suggest</p> <p>11 where the recipient spends the money. Like</p> <p>12 a restaurant gift card, it demonstrates</p> <p>13 your thoughtfulness, yet it allows the</p> <p>14 recipient to spend the money wherever they</p> <p>15 chose. See more about how the GiftRocket</p> <p>16 Gift Card works." That is static; that</p> <p>17 would be hard coded. And then the business</p> <p>18 listings are dynamic, and -- so there would</p> <p>19 be code about how to render each one</p> <p>20 individually. And the actual information</p> <p>21 that is in there would be dependant on what</p> <p>22 the search is. So here we have a number of</p> <p>23 different listings of restaurants in</p> <p>24 Chicago, and this data is derived from Yelp</p> <p>25 from their listings.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 55</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 speculate in the deposition.</p> <p>3 Q. Do you have an understanding of</p> <p>4 how Yelp presented the order of the search?</p> <p>5 A. I don't know.</p> <p>6 Q. Is there a way you could go</p> <p>7 back and now check which restaurants would</p> <p>8 have been presented on a page like this in</p> <p>9 2017?</p> <p>10 MS. O'NEILL: Objection to</p> <p>11 form.</p> <p>12 A. No.</p> <p>13 Q. At the time in 2017 was there a</p> <p>14 way for GiftRocket to know which</p> <p>15 restaurants were being presented on a</p> <p>16 suggested "Restaurants in Chicago" page?</p> <p>17 MS. O'NEILL: Objection to</p> <p>18 form.</p> <p>19 A. At the time, yes.</p> <p>20 Q. How would you know?</p> <p>21 A. Well, we could query the Yelp</p> <p>22 API and it would have the ordering.</p> <p>23 Q. Did GiftRocket get permission</p> <p>24 from any of these restaurants to list them</p> <p>25 on the website?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 54</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 Q. How does it decide which</p> <p>3 restaurants in Chicago to display on the</p> <p>4 search?</p> <p>5 A. During what period of time?</p> <p>6 Q. Well, this from February 2017.</p> <p>7 How did it decide which restaurants to</p> <p>8 display in the website?</p> <p>9 A. Uh-mm. It would be displayed</p> <p>10 in the same order that Yelp would display</p> <p>11 it. So using Yelp's API we would initiate</p> <p>12 a query for restaurants in Chicago,</p> <p>13 Illinois. Yelp would return a set of</p> <p>14 business listings in a specific order. And</p> <p>15 so the order that you see on GiftRocket, on</p> <p>16 this page, matches the order in which Yelp</p> <p>17 would have returned their results.</p> <p>18 Q. Do you know how Yelp determines</p> <p>19 which order the results would be presented</p> <p>20 in?</p> <p>21 A. I can speculate, but I don't</p> <p>22 know.</p> <p>23 Q. What do you speculate?</p> <p>24 MS. O'NEILL: Objection to</p> <p>25 form. I instruct you to not</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 56</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 MS. O'NEILL: Objection to</p> <p>3 form.</p> <p>4 A. Yelp, Google Places, those</p> <p>5 types of business listing services don't</p> <p>6 themselves reach out to millions of</p> <p>7 businesses for permission; GiftRocket did</p> <p>8 not.</p> <p>9 Q. Do you see at the top in bolded</p> <p>10 it says, "GiftRocket Gift Cards for</p> <p>11 restaurants"?</p> <p>12 A. Yes.</p> <p>13 Q. Is that the same phrase that</p> <p>14 would have appeared at the top of every</p> <p>15 city search page on the GiftRocket website?</p> <p>16 MS. O'NEILL: Objection to</p> <p>17 form.</p> <p>18 A. No.</p> <p>19 Q. How would it have been</p> <p>20 different for different pages?</p> <p>21 A. Restaurant's dynamic and that</p> <p>22 would be replaced with the category of the</p> <p>23 search.</p> <p>24 Q. So every location page would</p> <p>25 have a header that says, "GiftRocket Gift</p>

14 (Pages 53 to 56)

January 21, 2025

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 153</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 they are.</p> <p>3 MS. O'NEILL: Well, if Nick is</p> <p>4 not aware of what the document is, I</p> <p>5 am not testifying. So if he's not</p> <p>6 aware of what it is, that is the</p> <p>7 answer. And if you have a basis to</p> <p>8 think that he is supposed to be</p> <p>9 educated then we can go off the</p> <p>10 record and talk about that. But I am</p> <p>11 not going to testify about what the</p> <p>12 document says. That would be</p> <p>13 inappropriate.</p> <p>14 MS. VITALE: Right.</p> <p>15 Q. So you don't know anything</p> <p>16 about this document?</p> <p>17 A. It looks like a list of</p> <p>18 potential projects.</p> <p>19 Q. Potential projects for who?</p> <p>20 A. For the company.</p> <p>21 Q. Do you know who would have</p> <p>22 prepared a list like that?</p> <p>23 A. I don't know who prepared it.</p> <p>24 Q. It says there's a fee structure</p> <p>25 change in April of 2026; do you know</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 155</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. Do you know what that is</p> <p>4 talking about?</p> <p>5 A. Seems like there was a six</p> <p>6 percent increase in overall sessions.</p> <p>7 Q. Do you know if that is tied to</p> <p>8 SEO optimization?</p> <p>9 A. Do I know how it was tied to</p> <p>10 the SEO optimization?</p> <p>11 Q. Right. I am asking because</p> <p>12 they are in the same row of the Excel</p> <p>13 spreadsheet?</p> <p>14 A. SEO contributes to the overall</p> <p>15 number of sessions. That is how they could</p> <p>16 be related.</p> <p>17 MS. VITALE: All right. Put</p> <p>18 that one away.</p> <p>19 MS. O'NEILL: It is almost</p> <p>20 2:30. Why we don't take a break.</p> <p>21 MS. VITALE: Yes.</p> <p>22 MS. O'NEILL: Great.</p> <p>23 (Whereupon, a brief break was</p> <p>24 taken.)</p> <p>25 BY MS. VITALE:</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 154</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 anything about a fee structure change in</p> <p>3 April 2016? I am sorry, not 2026.</p> <p>4 A. There was a fee structure</p> <p>5 change.</p> <p>6 Q. What was the change to the fee</p> <p>7 structure?</p> <p>8 A. I don't know the specific</p> <p>9 numbers. There was a change in the fee for</p> <p>10 a subsize of users.</p> <p>11 Q. Why was that change made?</p> <p>12 A. To increase profit.</p> <p>13 Q. What subsize users were</p> <p>14 targeted in that change?</p> <p>15 A. Individuals using it as a</p> <p>16 payment mechanism for adult services.</p> <p>17 Q. So GiftRocket was aware of</p> <p>18 people using it as a payment mechanism for</p> <p>19 adult services and then they increased the</p> <p>20 fees for those specific payments; is that</p> <p>21 correct?</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. Do you see it says, "SEO</p> <p>24 optimization six percent increase in your</p> <p>25 overall sessions"?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 156</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 Q. We are going to switch topics</p> <p>3 away from the Excel spreadsheets and talk</p> <p>4 about Topic 2, database of businesses.</p> <p>5 We talked earlier about the web</p> <p>6 pages and you were explaining to me that</p> <p>7 some of the information on the GiftRocket</p> <p>8 web page was pulled from Yelp, correct?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. How did that process work where</p> <p>11 information was pulled from Yelp to display</p> <p>12 on the GiftRocket web page?</p> <p>13 MS. O'NEILL: Objection to</p> <p>14 form.</p> <p>15 A. We had an API integration with</p> <p>16 Yelp. We were able to submit queries via</p> <p>17 the API, and Yelp would return search</p> <p>18 results information, business information.</p> <p>19 And we had, as I mentioned, the template</p> <p>20 web pages where some of that information is</p> <p>21 static and then there is room for dynamic</p> <p>22 business information and it's from the Yelp</p> <p>23 API queries that we were able to obtain the</p> <p>24 business information that would be</p> <p>25 presented within those templates, and then</p>

39 (Pages 153 to 156)

January 21, 2025

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 157</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 rendered for fee site visitors.</p> <p>3 Q. What would trigger the pulling</p> <p>4 of information from Yelp API?</p> <p>5 MS. O'NEILL: Objection to</p> <p>6 form.</p> <p>7 A. Either an individual or a web</p> <p>8 crawler, such as Google or Bing, browsing,</p> <p>9 accessing a page for which we needed</p> <p>10 business information to render it. So</p> <p>11 earlier we looked at an exhibit that had</p> <p>12 listings of businesses, a set of them.</p> <p>13 Assuming someone clicked the "next" button</p> <p>14 within the pagination, we would need to</p> <p>15 have the set of business information for</p> <p>16 the next set of results, and so that could</p> <p>17 be a query to Yelp to obtain that</p> <p>18 information. Or another example is, if</p> <p>19 someone clicked on an individual business</p> <p>20 listing and went into a business landing</p> <p>21 page, that could introduce a query to Yelp</p> <p>22 for that business information.</p> <p>23 Q. And it would populate the same</p> <p>24 template landing page for every business</p> <p>25 but the information that came from Yelp</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 159</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 accessed, you would caches that data. Now,</p> <p>3 we don't know the landing page was loaded</p> <p>4 by a crawler like Google or an individual</p> <p>5 when it's just looking at the businesses</p> <p>6 table. The businesses' table at one point</p> <p>7 had approximately ten million businesses in</p> <p>8 it. But it's highly unlikely that</p> <p>9 individual that accessed ten million</p> <p>10 business -- separate business landing</p> <p>11 pages.</p> <p>12 Q. The business table that you're</p> <p>13 describing is that something that</p> <p>14 GiftRocket still has a copy of?</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 Q. What form is this stored in?</p> <p>17 What is the file name?</p> <p>18 A. I don't know.</p> <p>19 Q. But if I ask for the businesses</p> <p>20 table, you would know what I am talking</p> <p>21 about?</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. You say it had ten million</p> <p>24 businesses in it. Does it have fewer</p> <p>25 businesses now?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 158</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 would be there; is that correct?</p> <p>3 A. It would be relevant to the</p> <p>4 business, right.</p> <p>5 Q. Is there any way that</p> <p>6 GiftRocket would know which landing pages</p> <p>7 had been created in the process you just</p> <p>8 described?</p> <p>9 A. What do you mean by a created</p> <p>10 landing page?</p> <p>11 Q. Well, how would you describe</p> <p>12 it? What is the right word? The process</p> <p>13 you were describing where a</p> <p>14 business-specific landing page is generated</p> <p>15 dynamically --</p> <p>16 A. Uh-mm.</p> <p>17 Q. If "created" is not the right</p> <p>18 word, should I say --</p> <p>19 A. Loaded.</p> <p>20 Q. Okay. Does GiftRocket have any</p> <p>21 way of knowing which business-specific</p> <p>22 landing pages have been loaded?</p> <p>23 A. So we maintain a businesses</p> <p>24 table that cached data originally from</p> <p>25 Yelp, and if a business page had been</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 160</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. Why does it have fewer</p> <p>4 businesses now?</p> <p>5 A. When we switched from using the</p> <p>6 Yelp API to Google Places, we complied with</p> <p>7 a Yelp request to remove Yelp data and we</p> <p>8 dropped about eight million businesses from</p> <p>9 the table.</p> <p>10 Q. Did GiftRocket ever create a</p> <p>11 local save of the local business</p> <p>12 information from Yelp?</p> <p>13 A. What do you mean by "local</p> <p>14 save"?</p> <p>15 Q. Meaning the dynamic pull that</p> <p>16 you're talking about, where the information</p> <p>17 is coming from Yelp. Did GiftRocket ever</p> <p>18 have something similar, other than Yelp,</p> <p>19 where it maintained the same data so that</p> <p>20 it could access the data without having to</p> <p>21 pull it from Yelp?</p> <p>22 A. That is what I just described</p> <p>23 with the businesses table.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay. That is all of the exact</p> <p>25 same information that would be pulled from</p>

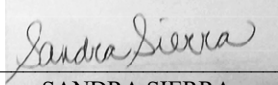
40 (Pages 157 to 160)

January 21, 2025

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 161</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 Yelp was included in the businesses table;</p> <p>3 is that correct?</p> <p>4 A. I don't know if it includes all</p> <p>5 of the information that Yelp returned but</p> <p>6 it included the relevant information that</p> <p>7 was necessary to quickly render the</p> <p>8 information for -- it substantially</p> <p>9 decreased the latency in the process of the</p> <p>10 rendering the page by caching that</p> <p>11 information in the database versus hitting</p> <p>12 Yelp's API every single time someone landed</p> <p>13 on the business page.</p> <p>14 Q. And so if you wanted to know</p> <p>15 what businesses were stored in the database</p> <p>16 when it had ten million businesses, is that</p> <p>17 information maintained by GiftRocket?</p> <p>18 A. Are you asking whether ten</p> <p>19 million businesses are retrievable, is that</p> <p>20 the question?</p> <p>21 Q. Yes.</p> <p>22 A. We were able to recover a</p> <p>23 backup that included the Yelp information</p> <p>24 prior to deletion, so, yes.</p> <p>25 Q. Okay. And all of the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 163</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 database whether any entry was generated by</p> <p>3 a crawler as opposed a specific visitor?</p> <p>4 A. No.</p> <p>5 Q. Does having a large of number</p> <p>6 of pages that Google can crawl improve</p> <p>7 GiftRocket ending in the Google search</p> <p>8 results?</p> <p>9 A. I don't know.</p> <p>10 Q. Who would know the answer to</p> <p>11 that question at GiftRocket?</p> <p>12 MS. O'NEILL: Objection to</p> <p>13 form.</p> <p>14 A. I don't think anyone at</p> <p>15 GiftRocket would know that question.</p> <p>16 Google-breaking algorithms are notoriously</p> <p>17 a blackbox and they provide general</p> <p>18 guidance. But it is not clear from my</p> <p>19 understanding or any conversations that I</p> <p>20 have had internally with a team that having</p> <p>21 more businesses will necessarily make pages</p> <p>22 rank higher.</p> <p>23 Q. Will having more page indexes</p> <p>24 make pages rank higher?</p> <p>25 A. I don't know. I think it</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 162</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 businesses that are listed in that</p> <p>3 collection of information are businesses</p> <p>4 where a landing page was generated because</p> <p>5 either crawling or viewing or some other</p> <p>6 reason, but a page landing was generated</p> <p>7 for them; is that correct?</p> <p>8 A. That's right. Vast majority</p> <p>9 would be the crawlers but, yes.</p> <p>10 Q. How do you know that vast</p> <p>11 majority would be the crawlers?</p> <p>12 A. Because Google would</p> <p>13 methodically go through and include all the</p> <p>14 pages on GiftRocket, whereas individuals</p> <p>15 had interest only in a small subset of</p> <p>16 businesses that they would get. So Yelp</p> <p>17 maintains a local business directory that</p> <p>18 is extraordinarily large, and the vast</p> <p>19 majority -- a large, large number of those</p> <p>20 businesses aren't relevant for gifting. A</p> <p>21 doctor's office, a dentist office, a</p> <p>22 hardware store, restaurants, where</p> <p>23 primarily the type of business to which</p> <p>24 individuals would send gifts.</p> <p>25 Q. Can you tell by looking in your</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 164</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 depends on the quality of the page.</p> <p>3 Generally, Google is trying to assess the</p> <p>4 quality of your website and pages on it.</p> <p>5 So if there were pages that would be</p> <p>6 relevant to potential visitors, it can take</p> <p>7 good content, then maybe. But if there</p> <p>8 were pages that Google deemed would not be</p> <p>9 relevant to individuals and generally maybe</p> <p>10 cast the website as being one that is not</p> <p>11 high value, then I could see it have low</p> <p>12 rankings across the board.</p> <p>13 Q. Was it GiftRocket's goal to</p> <p>14 list websites that improved its rankings?</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 (Whereupon, GR0038075 was</p> <p>17 marked as Plaintiff's Exhibit 24 for</p> <p>18 identification as of this date by the</p> <p>19 Reporter.)</p> <p>20 Q. I show you a document</p> <p>21 GR0038075; do you recognize this document?</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 MS. O'NEILL: Objection. This</p> <p>24 is outside of the scope.</p> <p>25 MS. VITALE: Should wait and</p>

41 (Pages 161 to 164)

January 21, 2025

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 273</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBITS</p> <p>4</p> <p>5 EXHIBIT EXHIBIT PAGE</p> <p>6 NUMBER DESCRIPTION</p> <p>7 18 GR0005624 141</p> <p>8 19 GR000595 142</p> <p>9 20 GR0014042 145</p> <p>10 21 GR00014896 148</p> <p>11 22 GR0016319 149</p> <p>12 23 GR0016337 151</p> <p>13 24 GR0038075 164</p> <p>14 25 GR0000465 188</p> <p>15 26 GR0004429 188</p> <p>16 27 GR0004465 188</p> <p>17 28 GR0014478 188</p> <p>18 29 GR0032895 198</p> <p>19 29-A PLTFS000149 212</p> <p>20 125 GR0000967 207</p> <p>21 30 PLTFS000139 251</p> <p>22 31 GR0000349 255</p> <p>23 32 GR0006966 258</p> <p>24 33 GR0007066 259</p> <p>25 34 GR0000518 263</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 275</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 INDEX</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 EXAMINATION BY PAGE</p> <p>5 MS. VITALE 5</p> <p>6</p> <p>7</p> <p>8 INFORMATION AND/OR DOCUMENTS REQUESTED</p> <p>9 INFORMATION AND/OR DOCUMENTS PAGE</p> <p>10 Copy of the GiftRocket file 83</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13 QUESTIONS MARKED FOR RULINGS</p> <p>14 PAGE LINE QUESTION</p> <p>15 (None)</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 274</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBITS</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 EXHIBIT EXHIBIT PAGE</p> <p>5 NUMBER DESCRIPTION</p> <p>6 35 GR0005631 268</p> <p>7 36 Binder Tabs 1-29 269</p> <p>8</p> <p>9</p> <p>10 (Exhibits retained by Court Reporter.)</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 276</p> <p>1 N. B. BAUM</p> <p>2 CERTIFICATE</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 STATE OF NEW YORK)</p> <p>5 : SS.:</p> <p>6 COUNTY OF KINGS)</p> <p>7</p> <p>8 I, SANDRA SIERRA, a Notary Public for</p> <p>9 and within the State of New York, do hereby</p> <p>10 certify:</p> <p>11 That the witness whose examination is</p> <p>12 hereinbefore set forth was duly sworn and</p> <p>13 that such examination is a true record of</p> <p>14 the testimony given by that witness.</p> <p>15 I further certify that I am not</p> <p>16 related to any of the parties to this</p> <p>17 action by blood or by marriage and that I</p> <p>18 am in no way interested in the outcome of</p> <p>19 this matter.</p> <p>20 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto</p> <p>21 set my hand this 2nd day of February 2025.</p> <p>22</p> <p>23 </p> <p>24 SANDRA SIERRA</p> <p>25</p>

69 (Pages 273 to 276)